

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

----- x
:
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA : CONSENT PRELIMINARY ORDER
- v. - : OF FORFEITURE AS TO
RICARDO FORDE, : SPECIFIC PROPERTY
Defendant. : 22 Cr. 373 (JGK)
:
----- x

WHEREAS, on or about July 11, 2022, RICARDO FORDE (the "Defendant"), among others, was charged in Indictment 22 Cr. 373 (JGK) (the "Indictment"), with conspiracy to commit Hobbs Act robbery, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951 (Count One); and Hobbs Act robbery, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951 and 2 (Count Two);

WHEREAS, the Indictment included a forfeiture allegation as to Count One and Two of the Indictment, seeking forfeiture to the United States, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), of any and all property, real and personal, that constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to the commission of the offenses charged in Counts One and Two of the Indictment, including but not limited to a sum of money in United States currency representing the amount of proceeds traceable to the commission of the offenses charged in Counts One and Two of the Indictment;

WHEREAS, on or about May 5, 2022, on West Broadway and Watts Street, New York, New York, the Government seized from a vehicle that had been operated by the Defendant at the time of his arrest, the following:

- a. One Celine multicolored handbag;

- b. One blue Fendi handbag;
- c. One brown Gucci handbag;
- d. One multicolored Gucci handbag;
- e. One turquoise Bottega Veneta handbag;
- f. One multicolored Christian Dior handbag;
- g. One gray Christian Dior handbag;
- h. One red Bottega Veneta handbag;
- i. Two Bottega Veneta dust bags;
- j. Three Gucci multicolored dust bags;
- k. Two Christian Dior multicolored dust bags; and
- l. One brown Celine Folco bag;

(a. through l., collectively, the "Specific Property");

WHEREAS, on or about May 22, 2023, the Defendant pleaded guilty to Count Two of the Indictment, pursuant to a plea agreement with the Government, wherein the Defendant admitted the forfeiture allegation with respect to Count Two of the Indictment;

WHEREAS, the Defendant consents to the forfeiture of all of his right, title and interest in the Specific Property, which constitute proceeds traceable to the commission of the offense charged in Count Two of the Indictment that the Defendant personally obtained; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(g), and Rules 32.2(b)(3), and 32.2(b)(6) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the Government is now entitled, pending any assertion of third-party claims, to reduce the Specific Property to its possession and to notify any and all persons who reasonably appear to be a potential claimant of their interest herein;

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED, by and between the United States of America, by its attorney Damian Williams, United States Attorney, Assistant United States Attorney Patrick R. Moroney, of counsel, and the Defendant, and his counsel, Sarah M. Sacks, Esq., that:

1. As a result of the offense charged in Count Two of the Indictment, to which the Defendant pled guilty, all of the Defendant's right, title and interest in the Specific Property is hereby forfeited to the United States for disposition in accordance with the law, subject to the provisions of Title 21, United States Code, Section 853.

2. Pursuant to Rule 32.2(b)(4) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, this Consent Preliminary Order of Forfeiture as to Specific Property is final as to the Defendant RICARDO FORDE, and shall be deemed part of the sentence of the Defendant, and shall be included in the judgment of conviction therewith.

3. Upon entry of this Consent Preliminary Order of Forfeiture as to Specific Property, the United States Marshals Service (or its designee) is hereby authorized to take possession of the Specific Property and to hold such property in its secure custody and control.

4. Pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(n)(1), Rule 32.2(b)(6) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, and Rules G(4)(a)(iv)(C) and G(5)(a)(ii) of the Supplemental Rules for Certain Admiralty and Maritime Claims and Asset Forfeiture Actions, the United States is permitted to publish forfeiture notices on the government internet site, www.forfeiture.gov. This site incorporates the forfeiture notices that have been traditionally published in newspapers. The United States forthwith shall publish the internet ad for at least thirty (30) consecutive days. Any person, other than the Defendant, claiming interest in the Specific Property must file a Petition within sixty (60) days from the first day of publication of the Notice

on this official government internet web site, or no later than thirty-five (35) days from the mailing of actual notice, whichever is earlier.

5. The published notice of forfeiture shall state that the petition (i) shall be for a hearing to adjudicate the validity of the petitioner's alleged interest in the Specific Property, (ii) shall be signed by the petitioner under penalty of perjury, and (iii) shall set forth the nature and extent of the petitioner's right, title or interest in the Specific Property, the time and circumstances of the petitioner's acquisition of the right, title and interest in the Specific Property, any additional facts supporting the petitioner's claim, and the relief sought, pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(n).

6. Pursuant to 32.2 (b)(6)(A) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the Government shall send notice to any person who reasonably appears to be a potential claimant with standing to contest the forfeiture in the ancillary proceeding.

7. Upon adjudication of all third-party interests, this Court will enter a Final Order of Forfeiture with respect to the Specific Property pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(n), in which all interests will be addressed.

8. Pursuant to Rule 32.2(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the United States Attorney's Office is authorized to conduct any discovery needed to identify, locate or dispose of forfeitable property, including depositions, interrogatories, requests for production of documents and the issuance of subpoenas.

9. The Court shall retain jurisdiction to enforce this Consent Preliminary Order of Forfeiture as to Specific Property, and to amend it as necessary, pursuant to Rule 32.2 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

10. The signature page of this Consent Preliminary Order of Forfeiture as to Specific Property may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which will be deemed an original but all of which together will constitute one and the same instrument.

AGREED AND CONSENTED TO:

DAMIAN WILLIAMS
United States Attorney for the
Southern District of New York

By:


PATRICK R. MORONEY
Assistant United States Attorney
One St. Andrew's Plaza
New York, NY 10007
(212) 637-2330

5/22/23
DATE

RICARDO FORDE

By:


RICARDO FORDE

5/22/23
DATE

By:


SARAH M. SACKS, ESQ.
Attorney for Defendant
Epstein Sacks PLLC
100 Lafayette Street
New York, NY 10013

5/22/23
DATE

SO ORDERED:


HONORABLE JOHN G. KOELTL
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

5/22/23
DATE